

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing discoloration of a cigarette by impregnating a layer of a cigarette paper wrapper with a water repellent coating to avoid spotting, the method comprising:
  - applying a first layer of a cellulose derivative to said sheet of paper;
  - allowing said first layer to dry; and
  - applying a second layer of a cellulose derivative to a sheet of paper,  
wherein said first and second layers of a cellulose derivative are applied to the paper  
over at least the entire length of a tobacco column of the cigarette.
2. (Original) A method as described in claim 1, wherein said cellulose derivative is ethyl cellulose.
3. (Original) A method as described in claim 2, wherein the total amount of ethyl cellulose used for said layers of cellulose derivative combined is at least 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
4. (Original) A method as described in claim 2, wherein said first layer and said second layer of cellulose derivative is applied on opposite sides of said paper.
5. (Original) A method as described in claim 2, wherein said first and second layers of cellulose derivative is applied to the same side of said paper.
6. (Original) A method as described in claim 1, wherein said first layer and said second layer of cellulose derivative is applied using a coating roller in a gravure process.

7. (Original) A method as described in claim 1, wherein said impregnated layer of cigarette paper maintains an air permeability of at least 20 Coresta units.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing discoloration of a cigarette by impregnating a layer of paper in order to avoid spotting in a cigarette having comprising a tobacco strand wrapped with said layer of paper, the method comprising the step of applying a water repellent impregnation made from a cellulose derivative in at least two layers while maintaining air permeability of at least 20 Coresta units, wherein said two layers of water repellent impregnation are applied to the paper over at least the entire length of the tobacco strand of the cigarette.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied in a quantity of at least 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied by means of a coating roller in a gravure process.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing discoloration of a cigarette by impregnating a layer of a cigarette paper wrapper with a water repellent coating to avoid spotting, the method comprising:

applying a first layer of a cellulose derivative to said sheet of paper; and  
style="padding-left: 40px;">applying a second layer of a cellulose derivative to a sheet of paper,  
wherein said first and second layers of a cellulose derivative are applied to the paper over at least the entire length of a tobacco column of the cigarette.

12. (Original) A method as described in claim 11, wherein said cellulose derivative is ethyl cellulose.

13. (Original) A method as described in claim 12, wherein the total amount of ethyl cellulose used for said layers of cellulose derivative combined is at least 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

14. (Original) A method as described in claim 12, wherein said first layer and said second layer of cellulose derivative is applied on opposite sides of said paper.
15. (Original) A method as described in claim 12, wherein said first and second layers of cellulose derivative is applied to the same side of said paper.
16. (Original) A method as described in claim 11, wherein said first layer and said second layer of cellulose derivative is applied using a coating roller in a gravure process.
17. (Original) A method as described in claim 11, wherein said impregnated layer of cigarette paper maintains an air permeability of at least 20 Coresta units.
18. (Currently Amended) A cigarette comprising a tobacco strand wrapped with a layer of paper having a water repellent impregnation made from a cellulose derivative, said cellulose derivative consisting of at least two layers and providing air permeability of at least 20 Coresta units, wherein said two layers of cellulose derivative are applied to the paper over at least the entire length of the tobacco strand of the cigarette.
19. (Original) A cigarette as described in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative is ethyl cellulose.
20. (Original) A cigarette as described in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative provides air permeability of at least 50 Coresta units.
21. (Original) A cigarette as described in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied on both sides of the paper.
22. (Original) A cigarette as described in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied in a quantity of at least 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

23. (Original) A cigarette as described in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied by means of a coating roller in a gravure process.
24. (Original) A cigarette as described in Claim 18, wherein the wrapper is composed of only one layer of paper.
25. (Currently Amended) A cigarette wrapper comprising a water repellent impregnation made from a cellulose derivative, said cellulose derivative consisting of at least two layers and providing air permeability of least 20 Coresta units, wherein said two layers of cellulose derivative are applied to the paper over at least the entire length of a tobacco column of the cigarette.
26. (Original) A cigarette wrapper as described in Claim 25, wherein said cellulose derivative is ethyl cellulose.
27. (Original) A cigarette wrapper as described in Claim 25, wherein said cellulose derivative provides air permeability of at least 50 Coresta units.
28. (Original) A cigarette wrapper as described in Claim 25, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied on both sides of the paper.
29. (Original) A cigarette wrapper as described in Claim 25, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied in a quantity of at least 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
30. (Original) A cigarette wrapper as described in Claim 25, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied by means of a coating roller in a gravure process.
31. (Original) A cigarette wrapper as described in Claim 25, wherein the wrapper is composed of only one layer of paper.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the cellulose derivative is water insoluble.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in Claim 8, wherein the cellulose derivative is water insoluble.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in Claim 11, wherein the cellulose derivative is water insoluble.

35. (Previously Presented) A cigarette as defined in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative is water insoluble.

36. (Previously Presented) A cigarette as defined in Claim 25, wherein the cellulose derivative is water insoluble.

37. (New) A method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied over the entire length of the cigarette.

38. (New) A method as defined in Claim 8, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied over the entire length of the cigarette.

39. (New) A method as defined in Claim 11, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied over the entire length of the cigarette.

40. (New) A cigarette as defined in Claim 18, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied over the entire length of the cigarette.

41. (New) A cigarette as defined in Claim 25, wherein the cellulose derivative is applied over the entire length of the cigarette.